

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 H-02 /050 W  
-----025032 211129Z /13

R 211032Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1532

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1280

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, FI

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION RE ICEBREAKER

1. FINLAND'S LEADING NEWSPAPER, THE HELSINGIN SANOMAT, TODAY  
CARRIED FOLLOWING ITEM:

"A STEP FORWARD - BUT ALSO BACKWARD - HAS BEEN TAKEN AGAIN IN  
EFFORTS TO SELL AN ICEBREAKER OF THE 'URHO' CLASS TO THE  
UNITED STATES. AN ICEBREAKER ORDER OF \$55 MILLION (ABOUT  
FMK 220 MILLION) WAS APPROVED RECENTLY BY THE UNITED STATES  
SENATE AND CONGRESS BUT NO MONEY WAS EARMARKED FOR IT IN THE  
BUDGET.

'THIS WAS A DISAPPOINTMENT BUT WE HAVE NOT YET LOST OUR  
BELIEF IN A POSITIVE OUTCOME,' STATED MR. KENNTEH AHLQVIST  
OF OY WARTSILA AB. ACCORDING TO HIM, RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE  
WILL BE POSTPONED 1-2 YEARS, BUT OY WARTSILA AB  
BELIEVES THAT AN ICEBREAKER ORDER WILL STILL BE PLACED BY  
THE UNITED STATES AND HOPEFULLY WITH HIS COMPANY.

"THE BUDGET PROCESS IN THE UNITED STATES TAKES PLACE IN TWO  
STAGES. FIRST, THE VARIOUS PROJECTS INVOLVED ARE  
APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE. THIS STAGE WAS PASSED BY THE  
'URHO' ICEBREAKER OF OY WARTSILA AB. THEREAFTER CONGRESS  
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DECIDES FOR WHICH PROJECTS, APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE,  
FUNDS WILL BE ALLOCATED IN THE NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET.  
THE 'URHO' DID NOT MANAGE TO 'BREAK THIS ICE' AND NO  
MONEY WAS SET ASIDE FOR IT.

"OY WARTSILA AB BELIEVES THAT THE ICEBREAKER PROJECT WILL  
BE TAKEN UP AGAIN AFTER A YEAR AND THAT THE

'MELTING OF ICE' MAY BE FACILITATED THEN BY THE  
PREVIOUS APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE EVEN THOUGH THE PROJECT  
WILL BE TAKEN UP AS A NEW MATTER."

2. IN VIEW OF PRIMINENCE OF ICEBREAKER QUESTION, EMBASSY  
OFFICIALS EXPECT TO BE ASKED ABOUT REPORT. WE WOULD  
APPRECIATE FOR OUR OWN BACKGROUND ANY COMMENT DEPART-  
MENT MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE.  
HOUSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SALES, PRESS COMMENTS, ICEBREAKERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Subject:** PRESS REPORT OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION RE ICEBREAKER  
**TAGS:** EWWT, FI  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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